



**POLICY ON THE
ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS, GIFTS, DONATIONS
AND SPONSORSHIPS**

2017/2018 FINANCIAL YEAR

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1. Introduction

Midvaal Local Municipality receives various forms of grants and donations. This includes:

1. Grant funding for capital projects, as per the DORA (e.g. MIG, RBIG, etc.)
2. Grant funding to fund operational projects, as per the DORA (e.g. FMG, MSIG, etc);
3. Sponsorships to fund mayoral projects (e.g. Mayoral Golf Day);
4. Other sponsorships;
5. Other ad hoc donations and gifts.

These grants, donations, sponsorships and gifts need to be managed effectively and efficiently to ensure that the desired outcomes (or prescribed outcomes in the case of conditional grants) are met.

In addition to grants, sponsorships and donations offered to Midvaal Local Municipality, individuals (employees and councillors) are offered rewards, gifts and favours.

2. Acceptance of grants, gifts, donations and sponsorships

Midvaal Local Municipality should not simply accept all grants, gifts and donations offered to Council, but should consider all the implications of acceptance of the grants before doing so.

The Municipal Finance Management Act, Act 56 of 2003 and the Municipal Supply Chain Management Regulations, subject to SCM Regulation 47, do not prohibit sponsorships or donations (in money or kind) to the municipality as such, but prescribe that such action must be disclosed if it was promised, offered or granted by a provider or prospective provider of goods and services or a recipient or prospective recipient of goods disposed of or to be disposed of. In deciding whether to accept the abovementioned, due regard must be given to the Supply Chain Management Policy.

2.1 Capital Grants

Capital grants must be evaluated in terms of the IDP priorities. Council will firstly implement projects to satisfy community need in terms of the IDP before other projects are implemented. However, capital projects not included in the IDP must be considered in terms of a comprehensive business plan that must contain the following pertinent information:

1. Description of project;
2. Link to existing projects and projects planned by other departments;
3. Staffing requirements – re-deployment of current employees (appointed staff, not vacant positions on the staff structure) or appointment of additional external employees (including both the number of employees and the designation / salary levels);
4. Impact on future operational budgets, including both income and expenditure – all expenditure items must be included, (e.g. remuneration cost, operational overhead costs, municipal services, etc.);
5. Any additional information available, inter alia: What the impact on service delivery will be if the project is not implemented; and comments on capacity to implement.

2.2 Operating Grants

Operating grants should be considered on an ad hoc basis. All grants that aim to further the objectives of the Midvaal Local Municipality should be considered for acceptance.

The following broad principles should be applied when considering whether or not to accept a grant:

1. Grant funding should not result in recurring operating expenditure for Midvaal Local Municipality;
2. The conditions of the grant funding should not place an undue administrative burden on Council;

3. The vision and mission of Council should not be compromised in any way by accepting the grant;
4. The conditions of the grant funding should not compromise Council's authority and decision-making powers in any way; and
5. The Executive Mayor may use his / her discretion when being offered grants and acceptance thereof.

2.3 Donations and Sponsorships to the Municipality

The acceptance of donations and sponsorships must, at all time, be done in such a manner that it maintains and promotes sound financial management, public accountability, transparency and good governance.

When donations and sponsorships are offered to the municipality, the following must be considered:

1. Whether the sponsorship or donation creates an expectation of further work, contracts, support, etc. to the organisation or person making the sponsorship or donation;
2. Whether MFMA training sponsorship comply with MFMA Circular 9 in that the training providers must be validated by National Treasury (This applies only to training on MFMA and not any other training courses);
3. Whether the sponsorship or donation is within the ambit of the Supply Chain Management Regulations 47 and 48; and
4. Whether the sponsorship or donation infringes the ethical standards set in Regulation 46 of the Supply Chain Management Policy.
5. Whether the donation or sponsorship may have financial, operational or reputational consequences to the municipality in the future, and where it is foreseen whether it is desirable to incur such consequences.
6. Whether the donation or sponsorship is desirable.

If it is found that the donation or sponsorship is offered or granted with the intention of being an inducement or reward for the awarding of any form of bid, or that it infringes on the ethical standards in Regulation 46 of the Supply Chain Management Policy, the donation or sponsorship may not be accepted.

All donations or sponsorships offered or granted to Midvaal Local Municipality must be submitted to the Municipal Manager for approval. Excluding the Executive Mayor as stated in 2.b above, no person other than the Municipal Manager may authorise the acceptance of donations or sponsorships.

All relevant donations or sponsorships offered or granted to Midvaal Local Municipality must be declared to National Treasury in terms of Section 48 of the Supply Chain Management Regulations.

2.4 Rewards, Gifts, Hospitalities or other Benefits directly or indirectly offered to employees of Midvaal Local Municipality

1. No employee may accept any reward, gift, favour, hospitality or other benefit directly or indirectly, including any close family member, partner or associate of the employee, of a value more than R350 **annually** from any provider or potential provider of goods / services;
2. Notwithstanding the above, the relevant employee must declare details of any reward, gift, favour, hospitality or other benefit promised, offered or granted to him / her or to any close family member, partner or associate of him / her;
3. Each Head of Department must maintain a register where rewards, gifts, favours, hospitality or other benefits that are offered and / or accepted by employees in his / her department are recorded; and
4. The abovementioned register must be available for inspection by the Municipal Manager and the Internal and External Auditors of the Midvaal Local Municipality.

2.5 Rewards, Gifts, Hospitalities or other Benefits directly or indirectly offered to Councillors of Midvaal Local Municipality

1. The same rules as per 2.4 above apply to Councillors mutatis mutandis.
2. The Gift Register contemplated in 2.4.3 above, will be maintained by the Speaker's Office.

3. Reporting to Council on Grant Funding for Capital and Operating projects

It is the responsibility of the department receiving the grant to report to Council on the following matters upon receiving confirmation of the grant:

1. Description of the grant received;
2. Amount received;
3. Purpose of the grant;
4. Conditions of the grant;
5. Implementation plan; and
6. Expected outcomes.

Abovementioned will only be applicable to ad hoc grants received during the year and not capital projects budgeted for as part of the approved IDP Capital Investment Program.

After completion of the project / programme, the department will be required to report to Council on the following matters:

1. Date of receiving of physical cash payment;
2. Date of implementation;
3. Actions performed, program implemented;
4. Amount of actual expenditure incurred;
5. Report back on conditions of the grant that was met;
6. Final outcome of project / programme; and
7. How any unspent funds must be used, taking conditions of the grant into consideration.

4. Other reporting requirements

Departments are responsible to adhere to all reporting requirements in terms of the conditions of the grant. Grants received from National and Provincial Government must be reported in terms of the conditions of the Division of Revenue Act.

The duties of the receiving officer (department receiving the grant) are detailed as follows in the Division of Revenue Act:

“A municipality shall, within 10 days after the end of each month, submit a report to the relevant transferring National or Provincial Officer. The report must set out -

- 1. The amount received by the municipality, up to the month reported on;*
- 2. The amount of funds delayed or withheld from the municipality, up to the month reported on;*
- 3. The actual expenditure by the municipality up to the month reported on;*
- 4. The extent of compliance with the conditions of an allocation and with the Act;*
- 5. An explanation for any material problems or variances experienced by the municipality, regarding an allocation which has been received, and a summary of the steps taken to deal with such problems or variances; and*
- 6. Such other issues and information as the National Treasury may determine.”*

If any variance is detected and it is not of a financial nature, the department in question should refer the problem to the appropriate interval Portfolio Committee Meeting for consideration. A summary of the steps taken to deal with such problems or variances should be reported to Council.

In the event of non-compliance with the rules and regulations as set out in the Division of Revenue Act, the applicable department should take the necessary action to rectify the fact that they are not complying.

The Chief Financial Officer must disclose to National and Provincial Treasury on an annual basis, all sponsorships promised, offered or granted, whether directly or through a representative or intermediary, by any person who is:

1. A provider or prospective provider of goods or services; or
2. A recipient or prospective recipient of goods disposed or to be disposed of.

To enable the Chief Financial Officer to comply with 5.5 above, all Heads of Department must, by no later than 15 July annually, report to the Chief Financial Officer on all sponsorships promised, offered or granted, whether directly or through a representative or intermediary, by any person who is:

1. A provider or prospective provider of goods or services; or
2. A recipient or prospective recipient of goods disposed or to be disposed of.

5. General

All grants, donations, sponsorships, etc. must be paid into the primary bank account of Midvaal Local Municipality.